



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/587,742	07/28/2006	Akira Ikezawa	294334US2PCT	2491
22850	7590	11/29/2007		
OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C. 1940 DUKE STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314			EXAMINER MAI, ANH T	
			ART UNIT 2832	PAPER NUMBER
			NOTIFICATION DATE 11/29/2007	DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

patentdocket@oblon.com
oblonpat@oblon.com
jgardner@oblon.com

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/587,742	IKEZAWA, AKIRA	
	Examiner Anh T. Mai	Art Unit 2832	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 13-26 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 13-20 and 22-26 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) 21 is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

 |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

 | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

- (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 13-20, 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Honma [6002319].

Honma discloses:

- a bobbin body 3 formed of an insulating material, and capable of fitting into the inside of windings of a coil;
- a protrusion formed [*farmed*] as recited in the claim but the examiner considers a typo and should be changed to "*formed*" of an insulating material, extending outward from an outer peripheral surface of said bobbin body, and capable of interposing between the windings as shown in figure 1;
- said bobbin comprises two or more of said protrusions, and said two or more protrusions are spaced apart from one another at intervals of a predefined spacing corresponding to a pitch of the windings with respect to a lengthwise direction of said bobbin body as shown in figure 1;
- stopper means [end flange at 3 in figure 3] protruding from said bobbin body, and abutting to the windings or core 1 when said bobbin is mounted in the coil to prevent said bobbin from rotating;

- a flange 3 extending outward from the outer peripheral surface of said bobbin body at an end of said bobbin body in a lengthwise direction;
- at least one stopper protrusion [end part perpendicular to flange 3 of figure 1] protruding from an edge of said flange in a direction opposite to a direction in which said bobbin body extends for engagement with a core.

With respect to limitation "*to prevent said bobbin from rotating*" has been considered as functional limitation. Therefore, no patentable weight is given because the entire structure of the claimed invention is met by the teachings of the Honma, by necessity the functional limitations of the claims will also inherently be met.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 25-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Honma in view of Ogasawara et al. [20010004071].

Honma discloses:

- primary winding 2a-5 and a secondary winding 2a-2;
- said at least one winding of the primary winding and the secondary winding includes a bobbin including a bobbin body fitted into the inside of the winding;

- a protrusion formed of an insulating material, extending outward from an outer peripheral surface of said bobbin body, and interposed between the windings as shown in figure 1.

Honma discloses the invention as claimed as cited above except for the bobbin made of insulating material. Ogasawara discloses a bobbin made of an insulating material for the induction coil [paragraph 0089]. At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use insulating material as taught by Ogasawara to the bobbin of the device as disclosed by Honma. The motivation would have been to provide insulation for the winding of the structure. Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Ogasawara with Honma.

5. Claims 23-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Honma.

Honma discloses the invention as claimed as cited above except for the protrusion has a thickness dimension of a size equal to or larger than a spacing between said windings. It would have been an obvious matter of design choice to provide the thickness of the protrusion bigger than the spacing between the windings for safety purposes of electrical insulation.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claim 21 objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 21 recites, *inter alia*, *said stopper means comprises a stopper piece configured to protrude outward from the outer peripheral surface of said bobbin body substantially on the opposite side of said protrusion, and fitted in a slit formed at a bend of a coil winding.*

The references of record do not teach or suggest the aforementioned limitation, nor would it be obvious to modify those references to include such limitation.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. See PTO-892 form.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anh T. Mai whose telephone number is 571-272-1995.

The examiner can normally be reached on 5/4/9 Schedule.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Elvin Enad can be reached on 571-272-1990. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Anh T. Mai
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2832
ANH MAI
PRIMARY EXAMINER

111607

